

THE REHEARSAL.

1. The Review plays his *Wallet* against *Dean* and *Chapter*, *Mayor* and *Aldermen*.
2. The *Whiggs* and *Dissenters* have *Spies* upon the *Clergy* all over *England*.
3. The Review Threatens more of the *Chapter* of *Durham*. And to give *Black Lists* of all the *Clergy* in *England*.
4. He falls upon the *Bishops*, particularly the *Bishop* of *Durham* with a Terrible Account of the *Clergy*.
5. All out of *Respect* to the *Church*!
6. What the *Church* suffers by this.
7. The *Prejudice* of being *Slander'd*, tho' *Unjustly*.
8. The *Representation* made of the *Church* of *England* to *Foreign Churches* and *Countries*. Le Clerk lys Leger for this Purpose in *Holland*.

SATURDAY, February 5. 1708.

(1.) Country-man.

Here's a Tryal of Skill betwixt you, Master, and Mr. Review. He is very Positive in his Story of the Parish of St. Nicholas in Durham Applying themselves to the Dean and Chapter there about a Lecturer, and the Repeated Oaths and Curses of a Certain D. D. and Prebendary of the Cathedral there, upon no other Provocation. He closes his Paper of the 15 last Month, N. 126. with these Words.

"If either the Dignify'd Drone himself, or any Body else, that takes Offence at this Story, demand a Proof of Fact; or a Long Account of the like Scandalous Behaviour, either of him or some others of the same Society—My Record is in my Wallet, to which Names, Surnames, Time, and Place are Affix'd, and Ready to be shown at Demand.

Rehearsal. He has set down the Place already, the Chapter House of the Cathedral of Durham, And the Time we may Easily find by the Occasion, the Application of the Parish of St. Nicholas about a Lecturer. But if ther never was any such Application, then ther's an end of all this fine Story! And for this, the only Dispute is, Whether is of most Credit, De Foe's WALLET, or the Certificates of the Dean and Chapter, and of the Mayor and Aldermen?

(2.) But when these Names and Surnames come out of the Wallet, then, Gentlemen, you will see what Loving Neighbours you have, who furnish your Enemies with such Materials to Print against you! You see their Moderation! And such Spies there are all over the Nation, who make it their Business to Gossip about any Story they hear of a Clergy-

Man; and if they can Find none, to Make them. Then send them up to the Observer or Review—And they'r Printed presently! Hence came the Stories of Oakhampton, Taunton, North-hampton, Harpenden, the Weather-Cock at Oxford and all the rest which I have been at the Pains to Confute in my first Volume.

(3.) And here the Review Threatens others besides whom he Calls the Dignify'd Drone, and of the same Society too, with a Long-Account of their Scandalous Behaviour. And says, p. 505. That there are Scandalous Black Lists of the Debauch'd Clergy, all over the Nation. And p. 508. he says, while such Wretches as these are Spread over this Nation, and Open Vice and Prophaness reign among the Clergy Un-restrain'd—

(4.) Country-m. This is upon the Bishops. And p. 507. he calls the Bishop of Durham, Old Bishop Eli, for not Correcting this Dignify'd Drone. And thence Prognosticats the Down-fall of the Church, as of the Ark under Bishop Eli, &c. The Reproach is (says he *ibid.*) when this Devil is known, and yet Suffer'd, Embrac'd, and let go Unpunish'd. And p. 503. says, It is known to his Superiors. And (*ibid.*) When Scandalous and Impious Wretches pass without Censure, and such People are Wittingly permitted to serve at the Altar and Administer in Holy things, who are Scandals to a Christian Country, the shame of their Sex as well as Set, the Reproach of their Neighbours, and an Offence to all Sober Christians— And p. 506 when the Sons of the Church become Sons of Sodom, and Guides to the Devil— They grow Factors of Hell, and Stock-Jobblers for the Devil. Then he makes the Application

tion, That it seems to me (says he) there are the most Pious Clergy-Men Suffer'd, and the fewest Punish'd in the Church of England, of any Church or Society of Religions in these Parts of the World. And p. 505 says, It is Surprising, that the Disciplinary part of the English Church shou'd be thus Remissly Manag'd—That those who have the Government of the Church, shou'd hold the Reins so slack, and let such Black things as these pass unpunish'd.

(5.) *Rehears.* Do not stop, Country-Man, till you have told his Excuse, why all this is no Reflection upon the Church of England. He professes a great Respect to her. And the next words to what you last Quoted are these,

"Nor am I at all Exposing the Church of England in this, I am sure it is far from my Design, Let them take it as they please, That I am wholly Unconcern'd about—If this be not a Service to the Church in their Esteem, I am sorry for their Eye Sight.

I put those words in *Italick* as he do's Let them take it, &c. because I suppose he wou'd have you lay Particular Stress upon them.

Country-m. And so we ought. For it shews what a Deep Regard he has to the Church. That he is so perfectly Unconcern'd how she takes all this. And her Eye-sight must be Bad indeed, if she sees not what Loving Friends she has under her Roof, whom she Tolerates and is Requir'd to Cherish! If I had such a Parcel under my Roof—

(6.) *Rehears.* This is but one Dirty fellow—What signify his Slanders?

Country-m. Is there but One of them then? Master, his Name is Legion. You have Fought with more Beasts than St. Paul at Ephesus. But who Encourages this Worthy Spark? Sends him Materials, and supports his Paper? When he's off of Scandal, he's so Heavily Dull, that none wou'd be at the Pains to Read him,

And if the Man such Praises have, What must they who keep the K—ve?

Rehears. If the Church think, That where so much Dirt is Thrown, None will Strick, I wish it may be the false-Prophet?

(7.) Country-m. I remember once I was telling a very Wise Neighbour of Mine a Scandal some had Rais'd upon a Friend of his. But he stop'd me short, and wou'd not hear it. He said, I love not to hear any Ill Things of a Friend. For tho' I am satisfy'd it is False, yet I cannot help Thinking of it when I see him, and it Sullies.

Rehears. The Observation is Good. A Man wou'd think himself Unfortunate who were

oblig'd to Vindicate his Courage, or a Woman her Reputation. None can be more Convinced than I am of the Falshood and Malice of these Accusations against the Clergy, because I have Chas'd so many of them and Detested them. Yet because I know them not all, when I see one in that Habit Ride by upon the Road, these Scandals come into my Mind, whether I will or not.

Country-m. You have Quoted to me before a Remark of the late Observer, That whenever you see a Clergy-Man go into a House you may Conclude it is either to Debauch the Man's Wife, or to Pick his Pocket, And I cannot help Thinking of this for my life when I see a Clergy-Man go into a Door. And I have heard idle fellows say in the Street, Now? Ware Wife, or Pocket—And this is the Reverence we have for our Clergy, Occasion'd by these vile Stories that fly about.

(8.) *Rehears.* But what will Foreign Countries think of our Church? For these Papers go Abroad, at least to Holland. And Le Clerk may put them into French, as he has done the Book of the Rights in his *Bibliothèque Choisie*, which go's over Europe. And to all these Countries De For Addresses himself in the Characters he gives of our Clergy,

That Foreign Countries may not see Our Ecclesiastick Nudity, And it become a New Proverbial Jest, To be as Wicked as an English Priest,

And to turn his Argument upon him, when they shall hear, That this Man is not Punish'd, but Continues still to Write on Reviews three times a Week, in the Face of the Church and Government, Encouraging every Day in these Black Characters of the Church and Clergy: What can they think, but that all these are True, and so Notorious as not to be Deny'd! Or else, That the Church of England has few Friends who are Concern'd how Vile she is Render'd to the World, and to Posterity!

ADVERTISEMENT S.

AN Account of the late Establishment of Presbyterian Government by the Parliament of Scotland Anno 1690. Together with the Methods by which it was settled, and the Consequences of it: As also several publick Acts, Speeches, Pleadings, and other Matters of Importance, relating to the Church in that Kingdom. To which is added a Summary of the Visitation of the Universities there; in a Letter from a Gentleman at Edinburgh to his Friend at London.

THE Spirit of Calumny and Slander, Examined, Chastis'd, and Expos'd, in a Letter to a Malicious Libeller. More Particularly Address'd to Mr. George Ridpath, Newsmonger. Containing some Animadversions on his Scurrilous Pamphlets, Publish'd by him against the Kings, Parliaments, Laws, Nobility and Clergy of Scotland. Together with a short account of Presbyterian Principles, and Consequential Practices.